



## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
1208-B Main Street  
Daphne, Alabama 36526

**JAN 15 2020**

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
2020-I-0226

Mr. Ben Frater  
Assistant Gulf Restoration Manager  
Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office  
341 N. Greeno Road, Suite A  
Fairhope, AL 36532

Dear Mr. Frater:

The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Restore Act funding proposal titled “Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge Recreation Enhancements – Mobile Street Trail”, submitted by the Service. Our comments are provided in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

The proposed project will increase recreational opportunities for visitors by replacing and enhancing infrastructure at the Mobile Street Trail within the Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. The project consists of replacing the Mobile Street boardwalk, addressing access and erosion issues in the parking lot, installing benches along the boardwalk, and installing a kiosk and wayfinding signs along the trail.

Based on the information provided in your biological evaluation, we concur with your determination that the proposed project “may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect” the loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), Kemp’s Ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), wood stork (*Mycteria americana*), piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*), red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*), and Alabama beach mouse (*Peromyscus polionotus ammobates*). The project activities will result in enhancing water quality in coastal habitats for rare species, therefore, the proposed action should result in beneficial effects to these species.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact Shannon Holbrook in this office at (251) 441-5871.

Sincerely,

William J. Pearson  
Field Supervisor  
Alabama Ecological Services Field Office